

MIDDLE SCHOOL INITIATIVE

METHODOLOGY AND SCOPE OF MILITARY DRILL INSTRUCTION

1. This page outlines your general duties and responsibilities as an instructor of military drill. First, let's define the purpose of military drill. Military drill is a methodology in the development of leadership and cohesion of a military unit. Drill develops the unified thought processes, which in turn develops simultaneous unit actions. To be an efficient drill instructor, you must be proficient in the performance of military drill before you can effectively instruct the subject. This is also true for all other subjects that you teach. You, as the instructor, are responsible for initial and future leadership development of the unit. This is a responsibility that will influence the cadets for the rest of their lives.
2. To start, academic instruction is paramount to understanding the terminology used in military drill. Therefore, a lecture-discussion period should be used to acquaint the cadets with the appropriate terms. The actual method of instruction of military drill is the demonstration-performance method. This will continue throughout many of the drill periods of instruction. Since this instructional area is basic knowledge there is only need for student clarification as lessons progress.
3. Military drill will be taught and practiced throughout this course. Time is allotted for step-by-step instruction and performance/critique. Additionally, each cadet should be given the opportunity to drill others as a method of increasing their individual leadership capabilities. During all phases the instructor should give constructive criticism and praise where due. Systematic reviews of lessons learned are necessary. In teaching individual drill movements where there are two-count movements, using "by-the-numbers" is a useful instructional tool to enforce uniformity in the movement. Additionally, using "mass commands" aids in developing the command voice of all cadets. There are several methods outlined in Air Force Manual (AFM) 36-2203, *Drill and Ceremonies*, that will aid you in your overall drill presentations and performance.
4. For simplicity, use of a cadet as the guide in flight/squadron drill has been eliminated during the first three achievements. As you progress in squadron-size drill you should select extremely proficient cadets to fill this position. Movements of the guide are independent of many movements of the flight, and specific instructions are given for this person in the drill and ceremonies manual. Fill this position when the unit is ready for it.